

MGUMC NEWS

A CHURCH FOR ALL SEASONS, ALL PEOPLE

OCTOBER 2026

MOUNT GRETNA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

4th St. & Boehm Ave.

P.O. Box 427

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MGUMC CONTACTS

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WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

(10:00 service includes children's message)

Welcome

We invite you to join us for worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Our mission is threefold:

- To know Christ and make him known;
- To help people become—and grow as—followers of Christ;
- To relieve suffering in our community and beyond through our members' ministries.

OCTOBER WORSHIP

Sunday, Oct. 4: Join us as Lay Leader Dan Deitzel provides the message.

Sunday, Oct. 11: Please note that we will celebrate Communion.

Sunday, Oct. 18: Overflowing with Thanksgiving for the Church

Sunday, Oct. 25: Hymn Sing

PASSINGS

Linda Dodge (Sept. 29, 1950 - July 27, 2026)

Carlton Dodge (Sept. 7, 1936 - Aug. 31, 2026)

Barbara Lauver (Dec. 3, 1925 - Sept. 8, 2026)

Linda Edleman (Aug. 4, 1956 - Sept. 17, 2026)

Patricia Shea (July 26, 1934 - Sept. 25, 2026)

Singing for Peace and Justice

Mark your calendars for **3 p.m. on Sun., Oct. 25**, to join in community building as we sing out for peace and justice. This is a low-key, informal gathering of folks who love our country, love our fellow humans and love justice—and want to do something to resist hatred and violence. We sing songs of several genres—folk songs, hymns, songs of resistance. We're building a welcoming, community who know good songs and enjoy each other's company, whatever our differences may be. For more information contact Pastor Bev Andrews.

Seeking Lay Delegate

With the passing of Carlton Dodge, MGUMC needs a lay delegate to annual conference. The lay delegate is responsible for interpreting and presenting the actions and programs of annual conference to MGUMC members and communicating the vision and needs of MGUMC to annual conference.

If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please contact Pastor Andrea.

Upcoming MGUMC Events

**SUNDAY
OCT 4**

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY, 6-7:30 p.m., Ebenezer Rm. Books are available in the Office.

**TUESDAY
OCT 6**

STUDY OF ACTS. Our study of Acts continues, 10 a.m., Library.

**SATURDAY
OCT 10**

PET BLESSING, All pets are welcome to the blessing. 2 p.m., Tabernacle

**SUNDAY
OCT 11**

CHILDREN'S CHOIR REHEARSAL and **PIZZA PARTY** after the 2nd service.

**SUNDAY
OCT 11**

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY, 6-7:30 p.m., Ebenezer Rm. Books are available in the Office.

**TUESDAY
OCT 13**

STUDY OF ACTS. Our study of Acts continues, 10 a.m., Library.

**SUNDAY
OCT 18**

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY, 6-7:30 p.m., Ebenezer Rm. Books are available in the Office.

**TUESDAY
OCT 20**

STUDY OF ACTS. Our study of Acts continues, 10 a.m., Library.

**WEDNESDAY
OCT 21**

GATHERING PLACE. Members, friends and neighbors are invited for lunch and fellowship at noon in Fellowship Hall. Gathering Place is supported by freewill donations. Volunteers are needed to help with set up, serving and clean up.

**FRIDAY
OCT 23**

PUMPKIN CARVING & DECORATION with our Sunday School youth. All skill levels welcome! 6 p.m.

**SUNDAY
OCT 25**

COVERED DISH LUNCHEON. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a special luncheon following the 10:00 service.

RSVP to the church office.

**SUNDAY
OCT 25**

DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY, 6-7:30 p.m., Ebenezer Rm. Books are available in the Office.

**TUESDAY
OCT 27**

STUDY OF ACTS. Our study of Acts continues, 10 a.m., Library.

**THURSDAY
OCT 29**

TRICK OR TREAT. 6-8 pm. Greet this year's ghosts, goblins and witches and hand out candy bags. (See We Could Use a Hand)



MGUMC NEWS

Trustees Report: Historic Sign Renovation

We are pleased to share that our historic front sign is now undergoing a full restoration. After years of wear, the sign required significant repair, and we have secured Jim Schlegel for the project. Jim has completed numerous restoration projects throughout Mt. Gretna and the surrounding area. A cousin to Joe Shay and brother of longtime Mt. Gretna resident Fred Schlegel, Jim brings both skill and a strong connection to our community.

During our assessment, we learned that the sign's trim and roof are made entirely of copper. Several copper pieces were missing, but we located them tucked beneath the sign. Jim also discovered that the sign has interior electric service and lighting, which he will restore to working condition.



We are excited to preserve this historic piece of Mount Gretna rather than replace it. Jim anticipates that the restoration will take approximately one month.

Administrative Council Report

Action, action, we want action. A-C-T... I-O-N!
(You chanted that didn't you?) Now we're underway!

Last time I wrote about faithful action-taking discernment, listening for God's nudge, and that your Administrative Council leaders started by listening to scripture, you, and sister churches, yielding 3 goals. Each goal and action, an opportunity to listen, learn, and be more wholly God's.

Goal Two: Consulting with our Alcoholics Anonymous groups, seeking a way to extend hospitality with food and conversation, in ways received as welcoming and hospitable. We do food well! The challenge is being both hospitable and honoring our AA neighbors. Marilyn Nolte, Jay Benjamin, and Kassie Chapman are the short-term team. Might this be a place for you too? (Hey it's 6 months and involves food!)

To recap, **Goal One:** Define hospitality for MGUMC that we can dream, design, and do at least one way to be more wholly who God made us to be—Do hospitality for God and Neighbor.

Coming soon is more about **Goal Three**, focusing on our Church's 75th Anniversary in 2027.

Curious? Ask! Interested in helping? Contact Dave Harris, Ad Council Chair, 717-269-3483 or HodosCoaching@gmail.com.

Now on to dream, decide, and do our future together with God!

Adult Choir Practice

Choir rehearsals are being held in the Sanctuary following the 10 a.m. service. (No rehearsal on October 4.) All are welcome to join us.

Solar Project Update

Happy Fall to all. Since connecting to the grid on May 5th, 2025 our solar panels have produced **15.7 megawatt hours (MWh)** of electricity through August 2026. This is equivalent to **11.2 tons of CO₂** reduced from the atmosphere, or charging 1.35 million cell phones, or planting 187 trees. We have received payment for 12 Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECS) at a market price of \$26 per SREC. Polluters must purchase these to offset their emissions from clean energy producing organizations.



Additionally, we have been saving around \$250/month on our electric bill and are expecting a federal tax credit of around \$9,300. We also received a state rebate of \$698. We saw rate increases from Met-Ed in December 2025 and June 2026, and expect more in the future with the influx of data centers being added to the grid. A higher price per KWH increases our savings, as we don't have to pay for electricity we produce from our panels.

If you have questions on the project, or want to learn about solar, contact Chris Sides by email at psualum4life@hotmail.com or by phone at 717-304-8627. —Chris Sides, Solar Project Manager

WE COULD USE A HAND....



Trick-or-Treat Bags are needed for Halloween as well as individually wrapped candy. Please bring donations to the Office by Monday, Oct. 19.

Items Needed for 2026 Silent Auction

We aren't trying to rush the holiday season, but we need treasures for November's Silent Auction. Please consider donating new or gently used items that would appeal to all ages. The first day to bring Silent Auction items is Sunday, Oct. 25. The auction will start on Sunday, Nov. 8 and conclude at the Thanksgiving breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 29. This year, proceeds will support families in need in our community. Your generosity remains deeply appreciated during these financial times. Questions? Contact Melissa Warner at geom1948@comcast.net

Thank You . . .

MGUMC's September Food Bank donations delivered to LCCM totaled 99 lbs. Also delivered (mid-Aug. to mid-Sept.) were 84 lbs of organically grown tomatoes and peppers.



Church picnic on September 20, 2026 at Gretna Glen.